DEMOCRATIC

GERMAN REPORT

VOL. II NO. 1 JANUARY 2nd 1953 Price: 15 Pf., 5 c., 3 d

BERLIN'S SOCIALIST STREET

Workers Move into Fine New Houses

Just before Christmas 1952, more than one thousand workers' families moved into the first of the fine new homes built in the East Berlin Stalin Allee, first Socialist street in the city.

Only one year ago, thousands of tons of rubble from the bombed out slums covered the area where today gleaming cream-tiled seven-storey apartment houses flank the street for thousands of yards.

On December 21st the first 1148 of the apartments were handed over to their tenants. A further four thousand new apartments built during the year will be ready for occupancy in the next few weeks.

First to receive an apartment was Frau Elisabeth Luedecke, who since 1945 has worked as a "rubble-woman" helping to cart away the ruins of the old Berlin. During 1952 she worked a total of 437 voluntary three-hour shifts on rubble clearance work, and has given three percent of her income as a loan to the National Construction Programme.

A breakdown of the distribution figures for the first 1148 apartments completed shows that 677 go to manual workers, 322 to white-collar workers, and 149 to doctors, teachers, and other professional people.

The new tenants include over 900 workers who have been honoured with the title "Activist" or "Honoured Activist" for the outstanding work they have done in factory and office, helping to make life better for all.

The great new residential quarter which is growing up along the Stalin Allee is known as the "First Socialist Street", since landlords and private shops are unknown there.

The rows of well equipped shops which were opened in the street fronts of the new houses in time to cope with the Christmas rush are all run either by the H.O., the state trading organisation, or by the consumers' cooperative.

Schools, theatres, cinemas, and parks are all included in the building project, which will convert what was formerly Berlin's worst slum area into a garden city.

(Further details of the National Construction Programme on page 6.)

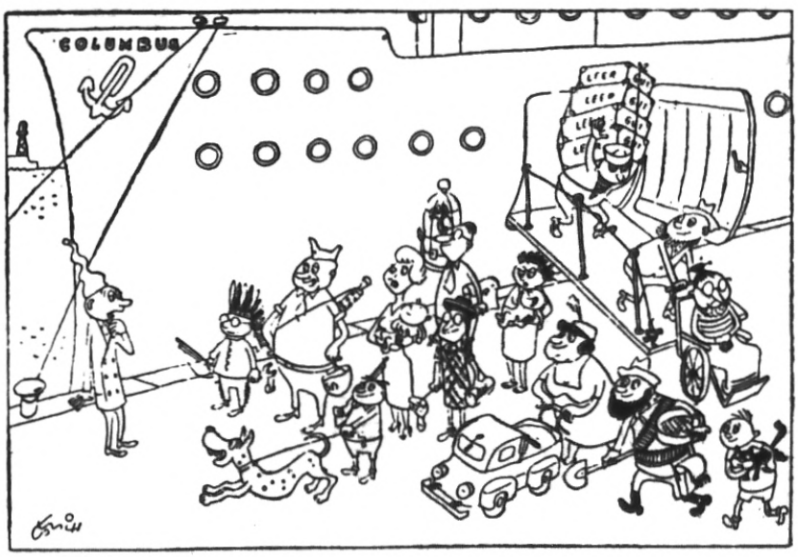
7000 tons of Butter from the Soviet Union

The Soviet Union will supply East Germany with 7100 tons of butter before January 15th, to overcome the temporary butter shortage, it was announced in Berlin.

The butter shortage had been caused by the failure of western countries to fulfil trade agreements for the supply of butter.

The prompt action taken by the Soviet Union to relieve the butter shortage in the German Democratic Republic was greeted by the public as another sign of the Soviet Union's friendly attitude towards a really democratic Germany.

"REINFORCEMENTS" FOR WEST GERMANY



"All of them? Gosh no. My wife's people are coming on the next boat."

"The following are considered 'members of the Forces': dependents, who are the spouses and children of persons defined in subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this paragraph or close relatives who are supported by such persons."

Paragraph 7 of the "Forces Treaty", part of the Bonn Treaty, signed in Bonn May 26th 1952.

THE TRUTH ABOUT GERMANY

by the Editor

Just one year ago, on January 18th 1952, the first copy of GERMAN REPORT was published. It was frankly an experiment, and was sent to a few hundred addresses in various parts of the world.

Today, we can proudly report very many thousands of readers in over 80 different countries, readers who not only read the paper but use it as a weapon in the fight for peace.

Since the overwhelming majority of those who read the paper today did not see the first number, we are taking the liberty of reprinting today part of the leading article published in Volume 1, Number 1, since it sums up very precisely what we were trying to do then, and what we hope to do in the future. Here it is:

Up to June 1950 I was chief correspondent in West Berlin for Reuters, the British news agency. In this capacity I saw and experienced from the inside the way in which the truth about developments was being perverted. I saw how certain British and American circles were driving ahead with their campaign to give guns back to the nazi murderers, and how they were distracting attention by circulating the most monstrous stories about alleged developments in East Germany, the German Democratic Republic.

I saw too, as any unbiased observer on the spot must see, that the true situation was quite different, and that in the German Democratic Republic Junker militarism had been banished for ever, that the factories had been taken away from the war criminals, and that the key positions in government and administration were held by men and women who had fought against Hitler and who now were devoting their entire energy to helping the German people, for the first time in history, along the road to real democracy.

Eighteen months ago, seeing the truth, I severed my connection with Reuters, which like all other great Anglo-American news agencies was acting as an agent of big business in the drive for war, and since then I have been living and working in the German Democratic Republic, working side by side with the men and women who are putting their backs to the great task of building a new, a better, and above all a peaceful Germany.

Because events in Germany today are a key to the peace of the world, and because most readers in the English speaking world have so little opportunity to read the truth about the German situation, I have decided to publish DEMOCRATIC GERMAN REPORT, the first number of which you are now reading.

Once a fortnight, GERMAN REPORT will bring you the real news about Germany, the news which most other papers suppress — the news on the regrowth of nazism, militarism and imperialism in West Germany and of the people's resistance to this on the one hand, and on the other the news about the new and better Germany, about the sinking prices and rising wages and young people who work for peace and not for war in the German Democratic Republic.

Above all, GERMAN REPORT will bring you news of the powerful movement for German unity and peace which has millions of supporters in all parts of Germany, the movement for free democratic elections throughout Germany which will make it possible to form an all-German democratic government. The formation of such a government and the subsequent signing of a peace treaty and the withdrawal of all occupation troops would be a decisive step to lessen the tension in the world today and ensure peace.

In June 1950, when I left the service of Reuters, the London head office of that firm was forced to issue a public statement that my reports from Berlin had always been "objective and exact".

In GERMAN REPORT, we shall endeavour to give readers exact and objective news of the German scene today, letting facts speak for themselves.

But GERMAN REPORT should not just provide you with interesting reading. We aim to provide you with facts and arguments which will serve you as ammunition in the campaign in your country against German remilitarisation, the campaign for the conclusion of a peace treaty with a unified, democratic and peace-loving Germany.

The next few months will be of vital importance for Germany, for Europe and for world peace. GERMAN REPORT will keep you abreast of events in Germany, and show how you can help to stop World War III.

Germans in East and West Greet Stalin's Message

Germans from all parts of the divided country greeted the interview granted by Soviet Prime Minister Stalin in which he stated his belief that war could be averted.

The former Social Democratic Senator of Hamburg, Alfred Dreher, stated: "This interview is a real Christmas present for all men of good will."

Commenting on Stalin's expressed readiness to meet Eisenhower, the West German "Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung" stated: "A very large part of the whole of humanity hope that such a meeting might lead to a slackening of tension, even if it did not remove the world conflicts."

In the German Democratic Republic the Central Board of the Miner's Trade Union stated: "We miners of the Republic thank Stalin and the Soviet people for this unmistakable and important declaration, which shows how closely the interests of the Soviet Union are bound up with the interests of the peaceable people of the world and of the German people."

In his interview Stalin declared that he did not believe war between the United States and the Soviet Union to be inevitable; that the policy of 'cold war' against the Soviet Union was the cause for present world tension; that he regarded favourably the suggestion that he should meet Eisenhower; and that the Soviet Union was interested in ending the Korean war.

Stalingrad Planetarium Nearly Ready

The planetarium given by the workers of the German Democratic Republic to Generalissimo Stalin on his 70th birthday is nearly ready for use, reports from Moscow state.

The planetarium, which was made by the famous firm of Zeiss, at Jena, now a nationally owned factory, is being erected at Stalingrad. Democratic German workers and technicians are helping to assemble the highly intricate machinery in the centre of the rebuilt city which just ten years ago was rased to the ground by nazi barbarity.

"DO WHAT AN OLD SOLDIER HAS DONE"

U.S. Sergeant, Two G. I.s Choose Peace

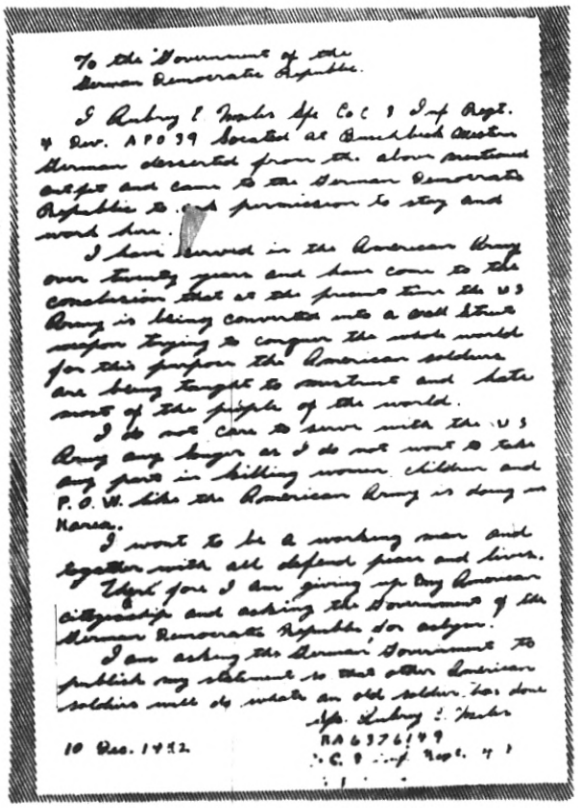
Three more United States soldiers have chosen peace and asked for asylum in the German Democratic Republic. On the right we reproduce the application addressed to the Government by Sergeant Aubrey E. Miles, RA 6376149, Company C of the 8th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army.

In his application Sergeant Miles, who was a professional soldier with twenty years service, states: "I am asking the German Government to publish my statement so that other American soldiers will do what an old soldier has done."

Two other American soldiers, Lintmont Night and Raymond Michalowski of the Military Police, stationed in West Berlin, have also asked for the right to live in peace in the German Democratic Republic. Both of the soldiers were members of Company B of Military Police Unit 759.

In his letter of application Raymond Michalowski stressed that his only wish was to stay in the German Democratic Republic and work for peace.

In the past two months five members of the United States Armed Forces and three British soldiers have been granted the right to settle and work in East Germany.



To the Government of the
German Democratic Republic.

I Aubrey L. Miles Sgt. Co C 8 Inf Regt.
4 Div. APO 39 located at Bamberg Western
German deserted from the above mentioned
unit and came to the German Democratic
Republic to ask permission to stay and
work here.

I have served in the American Army
over twenty years and have come to the
conclusion that at the present time the US
Army is being committed into a cold War
adventure trying to conquer the whole world
for this purpose the American soldiers
are being taught to mistrust and hate
most of the people of the world.

I do not care to serve with the US
Army any longer as I do not want to take
any part in killing women children and
P.O.W. like the American Army is doing in
Korea.

I want to be a working man and
together with all defend peace and live.

Right now I am giving up my American
citizenship and asking the Government of the
German Democratic Republic for asylum.

I am asking the German Government to
publish my statement so that other American
soldiers will do what an old soldier has done.

Sgt. Aubrey L. Miles
RA 6376149
Co. C 8 Inf Regt. 4 D

10 Dec. 1952.

West Berlin Police Attack Soviet Soldiers

Forty West Berlin police attempted to surround and kidnap a Soviet military patrol on the outskirts of Berlin before dawn on Christmas Day. A considerable number of shots were fired in the incident, which occurred on the borders of the French Sector.

S. A. Dengin, representative of the Soviet Control Commission in Berlin, addressed a very sharp protest to the Commandant of the French Sector, calling for the immediate punishment of the guilty persons.

"A group of West Berlin police, at first 15 strong and later 40 strong attempted to surround a Soviet military patrol and drag them into the French sector of Berlin under threat of using armed force" the Soviet protest note stated.

"The West Berlin police were accompanied by a radio squad car which gave them signals, and they opened intensive fire on the Soviet soldiers.

"Everything leads to the conclusion that this provocative action had been carefully prepared in advance, and the provocation came to nothing only because of the courage and calmness of the Soviet soldiers."

West Berlin reports of the shooting incident revealed that a prominent but unclarified part was played by a former nazi officer, Colonel Fehlauer, who was present on the scene in civilian clothes and claimed to be "visiting friends" although the shooting took place at four o'clock in the morning.

A West Berlin policeman was shot and killed in the course of the incident, according to West Berlin reports, and the Western authorities seized the occasion of his funeral to launch an almost unprecedented campaign of hate against the East.

Rents Up, Champagne Down

One week before Christmas the West Berlin Administration decided rents of many classes of housing should be raised by up to 5 percent, and at the same time lowered the champagne tax.

"Moral Values of German Soldierliness"

The new West German Wehrmacht will "integrate the moral values of German soldierliness with the values of German democracy", Bonn Security Minister Theodor Blank stated in a New Year message to all former nazi professional soldiers.

"The Federal Government will see to it that the moral and material means are provided to provide jobs for the many thousands of old soldiers who are needed to build up our forces" the message stated.

Workers Unite to Elect Mayor

Social Democratic and Communist town councillors in Solingen, West Germany's "Sheffield", joined forces during December to elect a worker as mayor, against the Christian Democratic candidate.

The new mayor, Arthur Schiechter, is a Communist.

Youth Gets a Chance

The inhabitants of Siebig, a village in Saxony, have elected Theresia Schierack, a 19-year old girl, as mayor of the village. Fraeulein Schierack is an active member of the free German Youth.

EAST GERMAN PLAN BRINGS BETTER LIFE

Details of Economic Plan for 1953

Main tasks set for the 1953 Economic Plan in the German Democratic Republic are the increase in the production of coal and power, the expansion of heavy machine-building, and the increasing mechanisation of agriculture.

The details of the plan for the coming year, the third year of East Germany's Five Year Plan, were announced in the People's Chamber in Berlin on December 17th, and unanimously approved by the deputies. The main statistics for production increases planned during the year are given in a separate table.

The plan was introduced by Bruno Leuschner, Chairman of the State Planning Commission. Here are the main points of his speech, which covered almost all aspects of industry, agriculture and public life:

Results of 1952 Plan

The 1952 Plan has led to a great upsurge in our economy. By the end of 1952, gross industrial production will have reached a figure 40.5 percent above the 1950 level. 81 percent of industrial production now comes from Socialist factories.

Agricultural production has risen since 1950, too. Corn crops are 20 percent higher, meat production 77 percent higher, cattle stocks 10 percent higher, and stocks of pigs 40 percent higher.

The Cabinet, in considering the development of the economy, has had to point to serious shortcomings in the carrying out of the 1952 Plan. In some cases the decisive tasks have not been concentrated upon, and there has often been hesitation in the solution of difficult and complicated tasks.

A considerable part of the special tasks set by the plan for the coming year are a result of the fact that certain parts of the 1952 Plan were not fulfilled completely.

Industrial tasks for 1953

Total industrial production will be raised by 12.8 percent in 1953. A particularly important basis for the success of the Five Year Plan is an increase in the production of electrical power. In the coming year power production will increase considerably, but the needs of industry and the population will not yet be fully met.

In coal-mining a large increase in production is planned. This will be helped by the generous supply of the most modern mining machinery by the Soviet Union.

Engineering has the most difficult task in 1953, but a task which can be fulfilled if we all put our minds to it. The most important job for heavy engineering is the construction of power machinery — boilers, turbines and generators. Very important is also the production of mining equipment.

The production of agricultural machinery, which has hitherto been neglected, must be greatly increased. Special attention must be given to machines which will help the Production Cooperatives to achieve bigger harvest figures.

1955 GOAL REACHED THIS YEAR

The 1955 goal for the number of students at East German universities will be exceeded this year, two years ahead of schedule.

Over 45,000 students will go to university in 1953, compared to original Five Year Plan figures which forsaw only 43,600 students by 1955. In 1950 the total number of university students was 26,890.

Workers' and peasants' faculties, which train to university standard young people who left school at 14, will take in 14,600 students this year compared to a figure of only 12,000 originally fixed for 1955.

In the chemical industry we must increase the production of acids, synthetic rubber, mineral fertilisers and pest-killers for agriculture.

The developments in heavy industry and agriculture will also make it possible to increase the output of consumer goods, and the metal industry, for instance, will turn out more pots, pans, knives and forks.

In the coming year the textile industry will, in all important branches, reach production figures higher than those originally laid down for 1955, the final year of the Five Year Plan.

New Methods in Agriculture

The main job in agriculture is to switch over to large scale production on the basis of modern technology by encouraging the Production Cooperatives. The technical equipment of the tractor stations and the nationally owned estates will be speedily improved. The tractor stations will have the task of doing 52 percent more work than in 1953.

To aid the tractor stations in their task, the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany has requested the Soviet Union to supply 400 mowing-reaping combines and 150 other combines under the foreign trade agreement for 1953.

Raising the standard of living

Larger quantities of goods will be made available for retail trade, and they will be of higher quality and in greater variety. The supply of leather shoes and bicycles will be doubled, and there will be considerable increases in the quantities of meat, fat, eggs, fish and milk.

New shops will be opened, particularly in country districts and industrial centres. There will be a great increase in the number of late-opening and Sunday-opening shops, and special shops for shift workers.

Special attention is to be devoted to the demands of style, and the taste of the public. In accordance with the wishes of the population the production of luxury goods is to be increased.

Rising Employment

Approximately 100,000 more workers are to be employed in the entire economy during 1953. The proportion of women employed in nationally owned industry is to be raised to at least 37 percent. Directors of nationally owned factories, particularly in the textile, engineering, building and food industry, and the railways and postal services must use all opportunities of employing women.

At least 247,000 young people are to be apprenticed in 1953. For this purpose the accomodation in apprentices' hostels, and the capacity of the factory technical schools is to be increased.

Health services

The number of beds available in hospitals and sanatoriums is to be raised to 206,200. Nine new polyclinics are to be opened in nationally owned factories, and 37 new rural clinics. Accomodation for young children in day nurseries is to be doubled.

BISHOP DIBELIUS BETRAYS PEACE

By Pastor Johannes Mau, Baumschulenweg, Berlin

Dr Otto Dibelius, Bishop of Berlin-Brandenburg, has misused his high ecclesiastical position in his address to a meeting of the World Church Council at Denver, Colorado, U. S. A. In this way he has injured our national interests and placed himself outside the pale of all decent Germans.

Is it true, Bishop Dibelius, that you stated in Denver: "The church in the East Zone of Germany is successfully resisting Communist oppression?" Please tell us where our Evangelical Church has been oppressed and resistance was necessary. The contrary is true, and the Government has always obeyed the Constitution which explicitly guarantees the rights of our Church. In addition the Government has provided considerable financial support for the re-building of churches — 1,854,048 marks in the first half of 1951 alone.

Why did you give the World Church Council such a distorted picture of the economic plight of our congregations, a picture which made it appear as if we were short of the most necessary articles? You have always had the right to visit us and convince yourself of the way in which we live. You must have heard of our Five Year Plan, and you have had plenty of opportunity to visit the Stalin Allee and to see with your own eyes how we are going about the work of reconstruction.

As chairman of the Council of the Evangelical Church, Bishop Dibelius spoke in Denver in the name of the entire Evangelical Church in Germany. Since we, in our Republic, are part of this church, we are bound to demand that he should act in the interests of the whole church.

While we, the progressive clergy, were electing our delegates to travel to the People's Congress for Peace in Vienna, Bishop Dibelius travelled to America and stated: "God has made Germany into a battlefield for the struggle between Cristian culture and the spirit of materialism." He has struck from his list those of us who live in the German Democratic Republic and the Democratic Sector of Berlin. For him we are those who are struggling for the "spirit of materialism". Bishop Dibelius would like to see our church lined up on the side of those who want to start a new war. We should like to know which "God" our Bishop really serves.

The organised Christians in the German Democratic Republic protest against the way in which Bishop Dibelius helps the American warmongers under a cloak of religion. This is treachery to the cause of our people, and the cause of peace for which we struggle.

People's Chamber Repeats Unity Offer

The People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic has repeated once again its proposal for free all-German elections and the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany.

In the last session held in 1952 the representatives of all parties in the People's Chamber unanimously agreed a declaration which stated in part:

"The peaceful re-unification of Germany can and must be attained through the establishment of an All-German Commission composed of representatives of the People's Chamber and the West German Federal Parliament, which can take part in Four Power negotiations aimed at the conclusion of a peace treaty; and through the holding of free and secret elections in the whole of Germany with a view to the establishment of an all-German government authorised by the whole nation to conclude a peace treaty.

"The People's Chamber therefore appeals to all German men and women to continue the fight against the criminal Bonn Treaties."

The renewed appeal of the People's Chamber provided an answer to western press allegations that East Germany was no longer interested in attempting to reach German unity.

1953 PLAN IN FIGURES

(1952 Production = 100)

Production figures fixed for 1953 in percentages of 1952 production

Gross production	112.8
Power	111.3
Metallurgical industries	125.7
Engineering	121.3
Electro-technical industry	118.9
Fine mechanics and optics	108.8
Shoe and clothing industry	110.6

Here are detailed figures for some branches of industry, showing which goods will be particularly boosted:

Iron ore	239.8
Power machinery	169.0
Steam turbines over 5000 Kw	255.5
Horizontal giant lathes with over 1600 millimetre diametre	320.0
Rolling mill machinery	364.0
Tractor-cultivators	346.0
Caterpillar tractors	550.0
Electric locomotives	274.0
Building machinery and road making machinery	169.8
Phosphorus fertilisers	205.0

Here are the figures for the main branches of agricultural production:

Corn and leguminous crops	102.5
Oil-seed	106.4
Sugar beet	109.0
Potatoes	116.9
Fodder crops	132.8
Cows	113.8
Pigs	107.5
Sheep	122.6

The following percentage increases are planned in the supply of consumer goods to the population:

Meat and meat products	116.0
Fat	113.0
Eggs	118.0
Fish	139.0
Milk	128.0
Sugar	111.0
Woolen cloth	160.0
Cotton cloth	133.0
Leather shoes	205.0
Bicycles	208.0

No U.S. Jets Fly From Sembach

Since the end of October the uncompleted big concrete runway at the new U.S. Army fighter base at Sembach, a little village not far from Frankfurt, has not grown an inch.

The men who were working on the runway are out on strike. They are protesting in the first place about failure to meet the conditions which were set when they were engaged for the job, but that is not the only reason for the strike. To find that we have to go back to the early summer of 1951.

One day early in June dreadful news came to the farmers of the village, which has a population of only 500 persons. Over 600 acres of fertile farm land had been requisitioned and would be turned into an American air base.

Mayor Mueller called a meeting of protest on June 13th 1951. More than 130 villagers, farmers, shopkeepers and others came to the meeting, and elected a delegation to visit the provincial government and protest against the requisitioning.

The delegation consisted of the village priest, the teacher, the mayor and a man and woman farmer. They were good representatives of the village, but they did not have any experience in dealing with government bureaucrats, and they returned to the village from their visit to the provincial capital with nothing but empty promises.

At the end of the same month the first bull-dozers arrived in Sembach and started to plough up the fields. The farmers called another protest meeting, at which representatives of the provincial government tried to calm the discontent by making lavish promises of new fields in other parts of the country, and lavish compensation.

For a while the protests died down, because a period of false prosperity began to dawn in the little village. More than 100 constructional workers were quartered in the village, and their payment for board and lodging, and their purchases in the village shops and the inn brought more ready money to the village than it had seen for a long time.

As 1952 began, however, the farmers awoke to the fact that many of them had no land to till, and others had only a fraction of what they had previously. The year started with another "pleasant surprise" when requisitioning notices affecting more than 50 further acres were suddenly delivered.

This time the people of Sembach did not intend to be taken in by any promises. As the surveyors appeared in the fields to measure out the new extension for the airfield, the church bells of Sembach were rung, and the siren of the volunteer fire brigade was sounded.

The farmers grabbed their forks and scythes, and rushed to the spot, and ran the surveyors off the menaced fields.

Since then the farmers of Sembach have carried on the struggle. The date for completing the airfield, originally set for the end of 1951, has been extended again and again, but the work never gets going properly.

Now the farmers of Sembach have new allies — the airfield workers. They are not just fighting for their wages and conditions, just as the farmers are not only fighting for their fields. All of them together are struggling to see to it that Germany lives in peace, and that no airplanes take off from Sembach airfield on missions of destruction.

VOLUNTEER WORK HELPED BUILD NEW STALIN ALLEE

The record-breaking speed with which the fine new houses on the Stalin Allee in East Berlin was built was largely due to the voluntary help given by people in all parts of East Germany, announced Friedrich Ebert, Lord Mayor of Democratic Berlin.

Speaking to the best volunteer helpers in a special ceremony, Lord Mayor Ebert disclosed that rubble clearance squads, doing volunteer three-hour shifts after their normal jobs, have salved enough whole bricks from the bomb ruins to build a total of 1630 three-room apartments.

A total of 1,312,451 volunteer three-hour shifts were worked up to the beginning of December 1952, and the volunteers removed over 600,000 tons of rubble from the sites on which the new homes to be built in the coming year will stand. More than 10,000 tons of scrap metal were also recovered from the ruins, and 1114 tons of girders which could be re-used for rebuilding.

Volunteer shifts were mainly worked by Berliners, but people in all parts of the German Democratic Republic participated in the reconstruction by paying sums of up to three percent of their income into a special Construction Programme Loan. More than 100,000,000 marks were raised in this way to finance the building, which was carried on outside the framework of the Five Year Plan.

Lord Mayor Ebert announced that similar voluntary work and voluntary loans would help to carry on the work of rebuilding in 1953.

Main building during the year will take place on side streets north and south of the big new buiings in the Stalin Allee, and will provide schools, nursery schools, day nurseries, communal laundries, and other social equipment necessary for a residential area.

Finnish-East German Trade Pact

Under a trade agreement concluded between Finland and the German Democratic Republic in Berlin on December 16th, East Germany will receive large quantities of wood, paper, shoes and textiles. Finland will be supplied with phosphates, chemicals, and electrical and optical goods.

900 Holiday homes

The East German Free Trade Unions now run a total of over 900 holiday homes for their members, it was announced in Berlin. During 1953 more than 600,000 workers will spend cut-price holidays in the homes, which are situated in the finest seaside and mountain resorts.

The all-in cost of a holiday in one of these homes in the height of the season is considerably below the holiday pay drawn by the lowest-paid category of workers.

Win a New Reader

Fill in the name and address of a friend, work-mate or acquaintance on the form below, and send it to

Democratic German Report
Friedrichstrasse 167/III
Berlin W 8, Germany

We shall be pleased to mail sample copies of the paper to him or her.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

DO YOU REMEMBER, PRESIDENT EISENHOWER?

Sir (it would be hypocrisy to call you "Dear General"),

You may remember the drawing reproduced on this page, for it appeared in the "Neue Zeitung", the official newspaper of the American Occupation Zone in West Germany for the German population. It appeared on December 17th 1945, at a time when the American forces under your command were still imprisoning, sentencing and executing nazi war crimials.

"They will not be forgotten" states the German text in the upper right hand corner, and the original subtitle to the picture stated:

"The picture above draws attention to the fact it was not only members of the nazi party and militarists who were responsible for Hitlerism, but that the great German industries also played a decisive role."

Under your orders, General Eisenhower, a special de-cartelisation commission was established to break up the immense power for evil and aggression represented by IG FARBEN. The success or lack of success of this commission was shown a year ago by the "New York Times" which reported on December 27th 1951:

"A responsible source associated with the decartelisation of IG Farben expressed today the view that the program was slipping through the Allies' fingers while former functionaries of the great cartel were regaining influence in the successor concerns.

"He cited the names of the members of the new board of directors for three IG Farben successor companies, adding that these three major companies easily could re-establish the old cartel relationship once the Allies had disappeared from the scene."

The "successor companies" are not even waiting for the Allies to disappear from the scene. These three companies, calling themselves "Farbenfabriken Bayer" ‚Badische Anilin" and „Farbwerke Hoechst" are already working in the closest collaboration. Their combined turnover rose from 1122 thousand million marks in 1949 to 2519 thousand million marks in 1951 — more than half as high again as their biggest pre-war production figures.

The goods which these harmless sounding companies are turning out included 6100 tons of white phosphorus in 1952 — white phosphorus for filling incendiary bombs. In the Mannheim factory of the combine a total of 12,000 workers are making poison gas.

IG Farben had particular experience in the gas line, of course. Figures originally published by your officers, General Eisenhower, show that IG supplied 7480 Kilogrammes of Zyklon gas to Auschwitz for "special purposes" in 1942, and one year later they supplied another load of 12,180 kilogrammes. The gas was regarded as very efficient, since it killed more people to the ounce than any other sort.

When you ordered the arrest of the war criminals who headed IG Farben, back in 1945, you may honestly have intended to punish them. I do not know. In the years between, you can perhaps plead, you were not in a position to punish them.

But now you are President of the mighty United States. Will you make up for lost time now, perhaps?

I scarcely think so. I have just been looking at the biographies of some of the men whom you have picked, or Wall Street has picked, to man your cabinet.

Here are a handful: Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, director of 15 corporations; Secretary of Defence Charles Erwin Wilson, President of General Motors; Secretary of the Treasury George Magoffin Humphrey who "presides over a vast business empire which includes important interests in iron, steel, coal, copper, oil, rayon, plastics, shipping and banking" as "Time" magazine states.

Big businessmen like these are not likely to do much to deprive their opposite numbers in West Germany of their power.

Look at the caricature again, General. "They will not be forgotten" says the caption. No, the people of Europe and the world will neither forget the German industrialists who plunged them into misery in World War Two, nor the U. S. Generals and bankers who gave the same German cannon kings a free hand again, and aim to plunge the people into World War Three.

Can you sleep well, General?

John Peet

Sie werden nicht vergessen werden

JAILED FOR JAILING NAZIS

The district court of Kassel, in the American Zone, has sent an antifascist to prison for two years because he helped to round up and imprison nazis in May 1945.

The accused, Heinrich Schilder, was member of an antifascist group in the Sudeten area of Czechoslovakia. Together with Czech patriots he helped to locate and arrest leading nazis after the collapse of Hitlerite Germany. The charge against him in court was that he had handed these nazis over to "unjust imprisonment".

American Spies Sentenced

Seven leading members of the Christian Democratic Union in the Weimar district of East Germany have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment for acting as spies for the American occupation authorities in West Berlin.

The convicted persons, who received terms of imprisonment ranging from 15 to 8 years imprisonment, included the former district chairman of the Christian Democratic Union in Weimar, the mayor of a nearby town. All accused admitted that they had been members of the "East Bureau" organised by Jakob Kaiser, West German Minister for All-German Affairs, and financed by the American Intelligence authorities. Evidence was given that they had misused their positions to deliver state secrets to the espionage organisation, which had its headquarters in West Berlin.

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

"It is all very well writing about how well people live in East Germany, but it is mostly too general", a reader of GERMAN REPORT in Manchester wrote to me a week ago. "How will you, personally, spend Christmas, for instance?"

It was not particularly interesting, I am afraid, but here goes.

We spent Christmas quietly at home, enjoying the rest from the fairly hectic daily round. Christmas dinner was a huge duck from Poland, with roast potatoes and deep-frozen green peas.

Cognac and Rice-Bowls

Presents? They were a cross-section of East Germany's foreign trade relations: really excellent shoes from Rumania and a bottle of first-class Crimean cognac from the Soviet Union were among my presents, and my wife revelled in a set of delicate porcelain rice-bowls from People's China, and a beautifully embroidered Bulgarian blouse.

Jointly we gave ourselves a high-fidelity gramophone record-player, made in Czechoslovakia.

After Christmas we made a quick tour of friends' houses where there were children, and got a look at the full-blown paraphernalia of Christmas, with trees covered with the fine glass Christmas tree ornaments which are made in this part of the world. Everywhere we went the children (and the adults) were either stuffing themselves with Christmas cookies, dates, oranges and nuts, or were in the usual post-Xmas state of getting over having stuffed themselves the day before. There was no sign of the "hungry Christmas" predicted in the western press.

Some Snags

Of course, not everything was perfect, by a long way. Nearly all the housewives with whom I talked were angry with the supply organisations, since the Christmas turkeys, geese and chickens were inexplicably delayed somewhere in distribution and only began to arrive in the shops in really adequate numbers after many people had given up hope of getting one.

But despite such flaws in the picture, this Christmas was the happiest Christmas since the war for everyone with whom I spoke. Even more important was the fact that as we were ringing in the New Year, here, no-one was scared for the future. Nobody was worrying about losing their jobs, because there is work for all; nobody was afraid that their children were not going to get a proper schooling; nobody was afraid that their rents were going up.

"Christmas Terror"

A final belated note to the "Christmas terror" stories which I have referred to several times before in these columns. Just before Christmas the West German "Stuttgarter Zeitung", and probably various papers in Britain und America, reported quite seriously that East German radio stations had been forbidden to broadcast carols, and might only transmit marching songs of the Free German Youth.

So I looked in our radio magazine. In the three days of Christmas the radio services of the German Democratic Republic transmitted no fewer than twenty-five exclusively Christmas programmes: carol half-hours, Christmas poetry, Christmas concerts and so on.

It was a particularly silly lie, because East German radio stations can be heard clearly in West Germany, and many thousands of West Germans, too, must have been listening at 7 p. m. on Christmas Eve, for instance, when the famous "Thomaner Choir" from Leipzig sang Christmas songs for three quarters of an hour.

What, no Spies?

Many readers will recall the tone of pained surprise with which western spokesmen have rejected Soviet and East German charges that West Berlin was being used as a centre for spying upon the German Democratic Republic.

Here are a few paragraphs from a report circulated by the American news agency Associated Press on December 14th 1952:

"Berlin — American authorities disclosed last night the arrest of a former United States Army intelligence agent and said that he had in his possession enough documents to jeopardise the entire network of informants.

"The documents included lists of names of Germans working in the anti-Communist underground. Some are living in West Berlin. Others are in the Soviet Zone and there were some hints that they included men highly placed in the Communist government itself."

So now it appears that U. S. Intelligence service in West Berlin has a "network of informants" in East Germany.

Offer

This is the first copy of Volume II of GERMAN REPORT, and this reminds me that I shall soon have to get down to the job of sorting out for re-pulping some of the mass of paper which accumulates in any editorial office at a horrible speed.

We still have copies of most of the numbers issued in 1952, and if anyone who is filing the paper for reference wants odd numbers to make up a set, we shall be glad to send them as long as supplies hold out.

This seems a good opportunity to repeat an offer which has proved fruitful in the past: if you would like a bundle of old copies to distribute at your union meeting, to work mates, or to anyone else interested, drop us a line and say how many you would like.

Democratic GERMAN REPORT

Subscription rates: 4 German marks, 8/—sterling, $ 1.25 per annum or pro rata, post free.

In Democratic Germany subs. taken at all post offices. Single copies may be purchased at the international newsstands.

British subs. to:
Collet's Subscription Dept.,
40 Great Russell St.,
London W. C. 1

U. S. subs. to:
National Guardian,
17 Murray St.,
New York 7.

All other communications to:
Democratic German Report,
Friedrichstrasse 167/III,
Berlin W 8,
Germany.

All material in this paper may be freely reprinted. Voucher copies of reprints appreciated.

Edited and published fortnightly by John Peet, Democratic German Report, Friedrichstrasse 167/III Berlin W 8, Telephone: 22 62 68. Printed in Germany by (36). Veröffentlicht unter der Lizenz-Nr. 752 des Amtes für Information der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik.